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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Tuesday - 23 April 1968

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1. [] Dropped by the office of Russ Blandford, Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, who said "we've got to have" a meeting of the CIA Subcommittee soon, and thereafter the Director would probably be asked to appear before the full Armed Services Committee.

Overheard Mr. Blandford in a phone conversation with Secretary Clifford during which Mr. Blandford said hearings beginning 30 April are being led off by Secretary Clifford, Nitze, General Wheeler and Mr. Stempler. This will be in executive session and no one else from the Pentagon should appear. The issues the Chairman wished to explore were what problems, surprises and requirements confronted Clifford upon assuming Defense responsibilities and how the Committee could be helpful. However, the Chairman wished to guard against the possibility that hearings would appear as criticism or recrimination against McNamara regime. The Chairman also wished to focus on such matters as the North Korean situation in connection with the Pueblo case and further details regarding the Secretary's thinking on how to "phase down" U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

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2. [] Hand carried to James Kendall, Counsel for the Senate Subcommittee on Preparedness Investigation, our comments on the American Security Council paper which had been requested by Senator Thurmond at the Director's briefing. Also made arrangements

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with [] for Bruce Clarke to review the testimony of Admiral Rickover and other Navy witnesses tomorrow.

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